Planning and Development Committee

Room 2100, Legislative Office Building

Hartford, CT 06106

Phone: 860-240-0550

Email: PDTestimony@cga.ct.gov

Dear Committee Members:

March 19, 2014

To our Elected Senators and Representatives:

I come before you today as a representative of the EMS services from the Northwest corner of the state, speaking with one united voice. We are from paid and volunteer services, from big cities, small towns, and everything in between. We are the people you call to come into your homes and take care of you at any time, day or night, 24/7, when you are blindsided by a medical emergency or traumatic injury. We are the people you trust with your lives and the lives of the people you love, and we take that trust very seriously. We do not enter into this career lightly. The training, education, and commitment we have to EMS are much more than a career; they become a way of life.

We are also mothers and fathers, teachers and skilled tradesmen and business owners. And of course, we are your constituents.

Don't you think that we have earned the right to be heard when you are considering legislation that may radically change the way in which emergency services are delivered in the State of Connecticut? Isn't it fair to acknowledge that when it comes to emergency services, we, and the organizations that represent us, are subject matter experts?

We would like you to know that we have SERIOUS concerns about Raised Bill No. 5580 referred to Committee on Planning and Development on March 13, 2014. This Bill is in direct conflict with the recommendations made in the February 14, 2014 Final Report of the Connecticut Emergency Medical Services Primary Service Area Task Force, the Connecticut EMS Advisory Board, and the Connecticut EMS Medical Advisory Committee.

This blatant attempt, in the name of regionalization, to circumvent the process put in place by the Public Health committee, and the efforts and hours put in by the Primary Service Area Task Force, has not gone unnoticed.

We now know what little regard that those crafting/supporting this bill have for both our input and the services that we render to the citizens and visitors of the State of Connecticut.

To that end we ask that all language in Raised Bill No. 5580 that pertains to EMS or the Primary Service Area be stricken from the bill before it continues thru the Connecticut General Assembly.

With the hope that you will act to restore what little faith that we have in the fairness of the legislative process, we have attached our names.

Sincerely,

Frederick V Rosa, EMT-P

Litchfield County Director of Operations, Campion Ambulance Service

EMS Coordinator, Sharon Hospital

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